



Proponent Testimony-HB 2727

House Federal and State Affairs Committee | February 12, 2026

Chairman Kessler and Members of the Committee,

I am Jeanne Gawdun, Director of Government Relations with Kansans for Life. Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support of HB 2727.

The Woman's Right to Know (WRTK) Act was passed with bi-partisan support by the legislature in response to women who courageously shared their personal abortion stories testifying that they were not told about the development of their unborn child, the risks of abortion, the alternatives, and the financial and emotional support available to them. During the recent trial in the abortion industry's lawsuit against the WRTK Act, three Kansas women who had abortions before the law was enacted told similar stories of the harms they suffered after receiving virtually no information before their abortions.

The protections that are now given to women by the state in the WRTK Act are only as strong as its method of enforcement. The proposed amendment in HB 2727 clears a path for women to more easily seek recourse when their right to informed consent has been violated. Under the bill, these women will have the option of electing to recover statutory damages of \$5,000, plus any amounts that were paid for the abortion and reasonable attorney fees.

The election is voluntary, so if a woman has suffered greater damages, she is still able to sue for actual and compensatory damages. The important thing is that by selecting to seek statutory damages, the medical malpractice screening panel requirement does not apply, which is appropriate as that process was designed for more complex cases and is not for verifying whether a woman received the forms and disclosures the WRTK Act requires.

Enforcement of the WRTK Act is critical as was evidenced again by the trial in the abortion industry's lawsuit against it. Planned Parenthood's own patients had filed complaints describing their treatment as "mechanical," "callous," and like "being herded around like cattle" and that the lack of information "should be illegal." There is a conflict of interest when it comes to informed consent because an abortionist's financial interest in performing abortions is at odds with a woman's desire to get complete information and make a choice that is truly voluntary.

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HB 2727 ensures that if an abortionist cuts corners on informed consent, there are real consequences. For a woman whose primary injury is the denial of her statutory right to informed consent, the statutory damages selection is an additional option.

Kansans for Life respectfully asks that the committee find HB 2727 favorable for passage.

Thank you for your consideration.

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